

THE KING AND QUEEN
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King

If he surrenders I shall
pardon him*

Only this, and nothing
more ? If
tame pardon comes at the
end, then
why is there such
preparation ? Kings
are not overgrown children,
and war
is no mere child's play.

Vikram

To rob was not my purpose,
but to
restore my honour. The head
that
bears the crown cannot bear
insult.

Chandrasen

My son, forgive him. For
he is
mature neither in age nor in
wisdom.
You may deprive him of his
right to
the throne, or banish him,
but spare
him his life.